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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE: DEC 21 1948

TO : Assistant General Counsel

FROM : Assistant Director, Reports & Estimates

SUBJECT: Lutes letter of 26 November 1948

1. The advice and suggestions noted in your memorandum dated 8 December 1948 regarding the letter from Lt. General Lutes, are appreciated.

2. Reference is made to paragraph 3, of your memorandum requesting information concerning the proposed remedial legislation as recommended by the Ad Hoc committee on clandestine air transport. The proposed legislation is as follows:

- a. Munitions Control Bill (H. R. 6190 - 80th Cong., 2nd Sess.)
Drafted by the Department of State and other members of the National Munitions Control Board - to be sponsored and administered by the Department of State. Status: Presented to the Congress on April 15, 1947; introduced on April 12, 1948 and referred to the House Foreign Affairs Committee; informal hearings in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee were held in June 1948; the bill will be re-submitted with amendments to the 81st Congress.
- b. Bill to Amend Civil Aeronautics Act of 1938 (S-8449 - 80th Cong., 2nd Session).
Drafted by CAB - to be sponsored and administered by CAB. Status: Introduced on April 6, 1948 and referred to the Senate Committee on Inter-state and Foreign Commerce; no action taken by last Congress; the bill will be re-submitted to the 81st Congress.
- c. Proposed Amendments to Title VI of the Espionage Act of 1917.
The US Customs Bureau has expressed a willingness to draft certain changes in the Espionage Act whereunder improvements will be made in the seizure and forfeiture provisions to permit, among other things, seizure of aircraft and other contraband for attempted violations of arms traffic laws.
- d. Proposed Amendment to Title 18, N. S. Code, Sec. 962.
The Department of Justice intends to propose legislation to amend or supplement Section 962 so as to cover not only the outfitting of vessels, but also the outfitting of aircraft for use by or against foreign powers or people.
- e. Proposed Amendment to Section 902 of the CAA Act of 1933.
The CAA will draft and have introduced at the next session of Congress an appropriate amendment to Section 902 whereby the displaying or use of a false registration number or registration certificate will become a criminal as well as a civil offense.

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3. It is suggested that you obtain copies of items a. and b. and that you advise me when the action contemplated in items c., d., and e. has been taken.

4. This office will be glad to furnish additional information on the background of this matter if desired.



THEODORE BABBITT

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